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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Isao GUNJI, et al.
SERIAL NO.: NEW U.S. PCT APPLICATION
FILED: HEREWITH
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.: PCT/JP03/07294
INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: June 9, 2003
FOR: PROCESSING DEVICE AND PROCESSING METHOD

**REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF DOCUMENTS
CITED IN INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, Virginia 22313

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application for patent, notice is hereby given that applicant(s) request that the Examiner consider the documents cited in the International Search Report according to MPEP §609 and so indicate by a statement in the first Office Action that the information has been considered. When the Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicates both the search report and copies of the documents are present in the national stage file, there is no requirement for the applicant(s) to submit them (1156 O.G. 91 November 23, 1993).

Respectfully submitted,

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP03/07294

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int.Cl⁷ C23C16/44, H01L21/31, H01L21/285

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Int.Cl⁷ C23C16/00-16/56, H01L21/205, H01L21/31

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Jitsuyo Shinan Koho	1926-1996	Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho	1996-2003
Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho	1971-2003	Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho	1994-2003

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 93/26038 A1 (MATERIALS RESEARCH CORP.),	1
Y	23 December, 1993 (23.12.93),	2
	Page 32, line 14 to page 33, line 5; Fig. 4	
	& JP 3051941 B2	
	Column 17, line 22 to 35; Fig. 4	
	& AU 9345353 A & US 5356476 A	
	& EP 646285 A1 & TW 310447 A	
	& DE 69321954 E & KR 277807 B	
X	US 5338363 A (MITSUBISHI DENKI KABUSHIKI KAISHA),	1
Y	16 August, 1994 (16.08.94),	2
	Column 12, line 3 to column 14, line 23;	
	Figs. 11, 14, 16	
	& JP 5-166734 A	
	Examples 3, 4, 5, 11, 14, 16	
	& DE 4241932 A1	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search
19 August, 2003 (19.08.03)

Date of mailing of the international search report
02 September, 2003 (02.09.03)

Name and mailing address of the ISA/
Japanese Patent Office

Authorized officer

Facsimile No.

Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP03/07294

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X Y	JP 4-372119 A (The Furukawa Electric Co., Ltd.), 25 December, 1992 (25.12.92), Figs. 1, 4 (Family: none)	1 2, 8, 9
X Y	JP 64-46917 A (Toshiba Corp.), 21 February, 1989 (21.02.89), Figs. 1, 2 (Family: none)	1 2, 8, 9
Y	JP 11-135484 A (Hitachi, Ltd.), 21 May, 1999 (21.05.99), Par. No. [0003]; Fig. 1 (Family: none)	2
X Y	JP 2717971 B2 (Fujitsu Ltd.), 14 November, 1997 (14.11.97), Figs. 1, 2, 3 (Family: none)	6 8, 9
X Y	JP 62-151567 A (Sharp Corp.), 06 July, 1987 (06.07.87), Page 1, lower left column, lines 16 to 19; examples; Fig. 1 (Family: none)	7 8, 9
A	JP 2001-35799 A (Tokyo Electron Ltd.), 09 February, 2001 (09.02.01), Full text (Family: none)	1-9
A	JP 9-2441850 A (Kokusai Electric Co., Ltd.), 16 September, 1997 (16.09.97), Full text (Family: none)	1-9